

# U.S. SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS RENT LAWS

To-Night's Weather—FAIR, FROST.

To-Morrow's Weather—FAIR, WARMER.

THE EVENING WORLD  
WALL STREET  
FINAL EDITION

The

Evening

World

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"Circulation Books Open to All."

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VOL. LXI. NO. 21,717—DAILY.

Copyright, 1921, by The Press Publishing Co. (The New York World).

NEW YORK, MONDAY, APRIL 18, 1921.

Entered as Second-Class Matter Post Office, New York, N. Y.

PRICE THREE CENTS

## JAPAN REJECTS YAP CLAIMS, DEFIES U. S.

### GOV. MILLER SAYS HE'S MORE THAN SATISFIED WITH THE WORK OF THE LEGISLATURE

Rapid Transit Commission Will Begin Its Duties Right Away, He Declares.

BUDGET BIGGEST TASK.

Believes N. Y. Port Development Will Aid Food Distribution in State.

By Joseph S. Jordan.  
(Staff Correspondent of The Evening World.)

ALBANY, April 18.—Governor Miller has adjourned. The Governor was asked this morning if he felt satisfied with the work of the Legislature. He fairly beamed as he answered: "I am more than satisfied. The work of the new Statewide Public Service Commission will begin right away, as will that of the Rapid Transit Commission."

It was understood, and, in fact, the Governor stated that the outgoing board would be given ninety days to clean up the work in hand.

"What do you mean right away, Governor?" he asked.

"I should say before the end of the week," he replied.

Just what has occurred to change the viewpoint of the Governor with regard to the old board is a matter of speculation. There are some who claim that it was because of the increased telephone rates.

The Governor declared that he considered the biggest work of the Legislature was the cutting down of the budget, which accomplishment he said was unusually well done.

A great aid in the ultimate lowering of the cost and in the better distribution of funds will be the reorganization of the Council of Farms and Markets. The Governor believes that this result will be obtained by the fact that there will be a single head direct over the work, while the distribution system will be more easily solved by having a traffic expert in the department.

The work of the department, he said, would be supplemented by the unification of facilities in the establishment of the newly created "Port of New York," which will through the increased avenues of distribution aid materially in lowering the cost of food products.

The Legislature presented the Governor with 737 bills for him to ponder over in the next thirty days, none

(Continued on Tenth Page.)

### PRESIDENT COMES HERE TO-MORROW

First "Out-of-Town" Address Will Be Pan-American Pro-nouncement.

WASHINGTON, April 18. (United News.)—President Harding leaves Washington to-morrow for New York, where he will make his first "out-of-town" speech since entering the White House. The event also will embrace his first official pronouncement on Pan-American relations, for he is to speak at the unveiling of the statue of Simon Bolivar, South American liberator.

Major is expected to prove an address of exceptional interest to them, most of the South American diplomats will go to New York for the ceremony.

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LOVE ROMANCE ADVENTURE

### DANGLED BY LEG HELD BY WOMEN HIGH OVER STREET

Wife and Nurse Battle With Delirious Patient Till Policeman Arrives.

Isaac Chickman, thirty-five years old, who has been ill from pneumonia in his home on the fourth floor at No. 305 Madison Street, became delirious at 5:30 A. M. to-day, and, running past his wife, Lena, and the trained nurse, plunged through the window.

The glass halted him long enough for the two women to seize his right foot. As he dangled four stories over the street, bleeding from many wounds inflicted by the jagged window glass, the two women screamed for help.

Policeman Jacob Gucker of the Madison Street Station saw them and shouting to them to hang on, dashed up the stairs and burst into the room. He was just in time. When the crazed patient found the policeman was dragging him back, he began to struggle more desperately. Seizing the coping he pulled himself downward with such strength he had the policeman half way out.

Gucker finally managed to straddle the sill and gradually drew the patient back through the window. Then he had to sit on him until an ambulance came and took him to Bellevue. Gucker was so wounded by the broken window he had to be attended by an ambulance surgeon. His uniform was torn to shreds.

Chickman's five-year-old daughter, Jennie, by a former marriage, has been staying at her uncle's across the street during her father's illness. She was coming out of the house to go home for breakfast just as her father plunged through the glass of the window and hung there suspended, and looking up she saw him.

Her screams were added to those of her mother and the nurse and hysterically watched the fight four stories overhead until she saw the policeman finally win the battle and draw her father in safe.

Mrs. Chickman, it developed after her heroic efforts to hold to her husband until the policeman came, expects to become a mother in about a week. Her husband, who is in the military business, has been sick for almost a month.

HAVRE DE GRACE WINNERS.

PRIZE RACE—Harford Junior Purse, two-year-olds, four furlongs—Brown, 119 (Number), \$1.00, \$2.50, \$2.10, first; Maxmorn, 114 (Goldblatt), \$1.00, \$1.20, second; Uncertain, 119 (dancer), \$2.00, third. Time, 1:15.5. Priests Rush, some bred also ran.

2-YEAR-OLD RACE—Heller Skooter, 119 (Number), \$1.00, \$2.50, \$2.10, first; Maxmorn, 114 (Goldblatt), \$1.00, \$1.20, second; Uncertain, 119 (dancer), \$2.00, third. Time, 1:15.5. Priests Rush, some bred also ran.

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### SHE'S ON THE STAND IN SUIT FOR DIVORCE JUST TO AID STOKES

Sympathy for the "Dear Old" Man Is Reason Given by Mrs. Matteossian.

POSITIVE AS A PEEPER.

Woman She Saw in Wallace's Room She Says Was the Defendant.

Mrs. Mabel Matteossian, the long-sought witness in the Stokes divorce trial, whose illness halted the case for two days, came into court to-day, looking so ill that Justice Finch said to her that if she felt at any time she could no longer endure cross-examination he would be willing to adjourn the case until she had recovered her strength.

It was Mrs. Matteossian who, according to her previous testimony, had been on an extension roof at No. 13 East 35th Street in 1914 and thence had seen Mrs. W. E. D. Stokes in the bedroom of Edgar T. Wallace.

Henry A. Wise, attorney for Wallace, in the opening of his cross-examination, took the witness over his early life without eliciting anything of importance.

It was in March, 1914, she said, that she went to live at No. 13 East 35th Street, where Edgar T. Wallace lived. She admitted knowing Mrs. De Anquines, one of the other star witnesses for Stokes.

Q. Did you ever work at the St. Regis Hotel? A. Yes.

WORKED UNDER NAME OF "MISS MONROE."

Q. Under what name? A. Miss Monroe.

Q. Did you ever work in Haan's restaurant? A. Never.

In response to a series of questions the witness said she knew Martha Jones, Wallace's maid servant, but added: "I told Martha I was sorry I had ever been brought into the Stokes case."

Q. Did Mr. Stokes ever suggest that you pay a visit to Martha Jones? A. Yes. I can't remember the conversation.

Q. He did not suggest paying any of your expenses? A. No.

Mrs. Matteossian went to Fort Myer, Va., to see Martha Jones and afterward invited Martha to pay her a visit in New York. The witness said that the "invitation" was for Martha "to come up and work for you."

Q. Then your only reason for visit—

(Continued on Second Page.)

### SAYS GRANDMA'S CIGARETTES UNFIT HER TO KEEP CHILD

Mrs. James Wier Hawkins Asks Court to Order Boy Returned to Her.

The habit of his grandmother in smoking cigarettes unfits her for the custody of James Wier Hawkins, five years old, according to the application of his mother, Mrs. Isabel G. Hawkins, to Supreme Court Justice Squires in Brooklyn to-day.

Mrs. Hawkins applied for an order to show cause why her husband, James Wier Hawkins, Brooklyn florist, living at No. 379 Fort Hamilton Avenue, should not be compelled to turn over the little boy to her. Justice Squires granted the order, returnable on Wednesday.

"Moments of inspiration that only a great and good mother can have," said Justice Squires in his opinion.

### N. Y. RENT LAWS HELD VALID BY THE U. S. SUPREME COURT; DECLARED CONSTITUTIONAL

Broad Principle That Legislatures Have Right to Meet Such Emergencies Is Confirmed—Rent Law in Washington Also Upheld.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The Supreme Court of the United States to-day in an emphatic manner declared that Legislatures, when an emergency arises, may pass laws to protect people against extortionate landlords. Under such conditions the rights of the property owner must give way to the public interests, it was held.

Specifically the court held constitutional the emergency laws passed by Congress and the New York Legislature against profiteers in the District of Columbia and the State of New York.

Justice Holmes delivered the majority opinion and Justice McKenna the minority. Each denounced the views of the other in tones at times sarcastic and bitter. In both cases the Justices divided 5 to 4.

The court upheld the application of the New York laws to all buildings. These laws were the result of the special session by the Legislature called by Gov. Smith to prevent the charging of excessive rents and the ousting of tenants who refused to renew leases at much higher rates.

The opinion in the New York case was on an action brought by the Marcus Brown Holding Company which attacked Chapters 842 to 862 inclusive and other sections of the State laws compelling landlords to give specific service to tenants, and making dispossession under ordinary circumstances extremely difficult.

In the majority opinion in the District of Columbia case Justice Holmes said housing is one of the necessities of life and argued that if State Legislatures can limit rates of interest they can also regulate landlords' profits.

"An emergency existed," said Justice Holmes. "This was a public calamity and world wide fact. If Congress has power to limit the height of buildings in the District, it has the power to limit rates of rental if the public emergency requires. Housing is a necessary of life. All elements public indicate present interest."

He argued that if State Legislatures can restrain rates of interest by usury laws, they also can restrain the profits of landlords.

Justice McKenna, dissenting, declared that the emergency laws were unconstitutional.

(Continued on Second Page.)

### NO DISARMAMENT MOVE UNTIL PEACE

President So Informs Women Who Urge His Influence for Reduction.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—President Harding contemplates no steps toward an international disarmament agreement until a technical state of peace has been established, according to members of the Women's Committee for World Disarmament who discussed the subject for him to-day.

(Continued on Second Page.)

### FROST PREDICTED TO-NIGHT

Weather Bureau Says It Will Probably Extend to Florida.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The cold snap moving eastward from the Plains States had extended to-day to the Atlantic seaboard from Maine to Florida, but the weather bureau forecast slowly rising temperatures to-morrow and Wednesday east of the Mississippi River. Slightly lower temperatures were predicted for to-morrow along the middle Atlantic coast and light frost probably as far south as central Florida.

Byron calls at White House.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—William J. Byron called at the White House to-day. "I'm just a political gadabout, watering flowers wherever I think it will do the most good," Byron said.

### POLICEMAN CAUGHT 3 BABIES THROWN BY WOMAN AT FIRE

Were Dropped From Window by Frantic Mother as Flames Threatened.

MANY WERE IN PERIL.

Several Injured on Fire Escapes—100 Lose Homes by Blaze.

Policeman Herman Glander of the Amity Street Station heard screams at 1:30 A. M. and as he ran around in front of No. 71 Van Brunt Street, Brooklyn, saw flames on the lower floor and Mrs. Marie Nicol in a third floor window with her two-and-a-half months' old baby, John, in her arms.

Mrs. Nicol deliberately calculated the distance, leaped over as far as she could and dropped the infant. The policeman caught it, saw it was unhurt and turned it over to a bystander.

He lowered the escape ladder to the street and had got up to the second floor when he saw Mrs. Nicol again at the window.

This time she had Rosie, her two-and-a-half year old daughter, and Emanuel, her sixteen-months-old son.

She dropped them one at a time through the escape well from the third to the second floor and Glander caught them, carried them to the street and handed them over to neighbors.

The children were unhurt and Mrs. Nicol came down the escape ladder unaided just as flames burst from the window she had left. Glander went around to No. 60 Degraw Street, the three-story house in which the fire started, and pulled down the ladder of the escape. At a third-floor window were grouped members of Pasquale Donato's family. He called to his aid Sergt. Peter Pinski and Policeman Robert Franchini of the Hamilton Avenue Station, and they carried down Maria, eight; Paul, six; and Vincenzo, four.

When Lieut. Tim O'Neal arrived with Engine Company No. 293 he sent Firemen James Flynn and Howard Haynes up the escape to get two women he heard were on the third floor. The firemen were just in time to prevent Antoinette Donato from jumping. Flynn carried her to the street and Haynes found Mrs. Marie Donato, forty-two, helpless from smoke on the floor and carried her down.

There was a small panic in No. 71 Van Brunt Street and some of the tenants got into a tangle in halls and on fire escapes that resulted in several injuries. The victims were: John Oliver, forty-nine, fractured left foot by jumping from the first floor; George Mondis, twenty-eight, sprained left ankle; John Mondis, thirty-one, foot cut by glass; Leonard Suppatti, forty-six, sprained foot; Paul Cosentino, thirty-eight, lacerated scalp; Forbini Nalgio, thirty-eight, right hip sprained and Frank Van Hill, thirty-two, both ankles fractured. Oliver was the only one sent to the hospital.

The fire apparently started under a hall stairs in No. 60 Degraw Street and spread so quickly the Fire Marshal is investigating a report it may have been incendiary. It went to Nos. 71 and 73 Van Brunt Street. Two of the houses are three stories and No. 72 four stories. About 100 persons were homeless by the fire, which went through the three buildings, doing \$10,000 damage.

One of the victims and typical lady who got out in "Dress Street" Central. The fire was a big one.

BERGDOLL INQUIRY VOTED.

House Also Seeks Return of Slacker From Germany.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The House to-day adopted the resolution by Representative Kinn, California, providing an investigation of the Grover Cleveland Bergdoll affair, including Bergdoll's escape.

The investigating committee was also to look into the Bergdoll affair, including Bergdoll's escape from Germany.

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### JAPAN DEFIES U. S. ON YAP; SCOUTS CONTENTION THAT AMERICA HAS RIGHTS THERE

Sees No Reason to "Reverse Decision of Supreme Council" Because "Certain Thoughts, Not Expressed in the Text, Existed in the Mind of One Delegate."

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Japan's firm determination not to surrender the Island of Yap is stated emphatically in a series of five notes between the United States and Japan made public to-day by the State Department.

To maintain its position with regard to Yap, the American Government would have "to prove not merely the fact that President Wilson made reservations concerning it, but also that the Supreme Council decided in favor of it themselves," the Japanese Government contends.

The correspondence, covering a period of nearly six months, lays bare for the first time the whole secret negotiations over Yap, which has created one of the most serious international issues of the day.

It reveals for the first time that not only has Japan defied the American protest against the mandate over Yap, but that it also rejected summarily a proposal by the United States that "even if Yap should be assigned under mandate to Japan all other powers should have free and unhindered access to the island for the landing and operation of cables."

The last note of the series, the Hughes mandate note handed to the Japanese Foreign Office on April 5, is similar to that to Great Britain, which was made public, except for the opening paragraph. This paragraph follows:

"The Government of the United States finds itself unable to agree with the contention of the Japanese Government that in order to maintain the position of the Government of the United States with respect to the Island of Yap it is necessary for this Government to prove not merely the fact that the particular line of views was stated at the meetings of the Supreme Council (referring to the reservations made by President Wilson at the Peace Conference against the award of Yap to Japan), but also that the Supreme Council 'decided in favor of those views.' If it is meant that the United States could be bound without its consent by the action of the Supreme Council, the contention is deemed by this Government to be inadmissible, and on the other hand the United States has never assented to the mandate purporting to embrace the Island of Yap."

Secretary Hughes added in his note:

"As no treaty has ever been concluded with the United States relating to the Island of Yap and as no one has ever been authorized to cede or surrender the right or interest of the United States in the island, this Government must insist that it has not lost its right or interest as it existed prior to any action of the Supreme Council of the League of Nations, and cannot recognize the allocation of the Island or the validity of the mandate to Japan."

Japan has not as yet replied to this communication, so that to date the correspondence consists of the two notes quoted above, another formal note sent by Acting Secretary Davis last Dec. 6 by direction of President Wilson and two memoranda with which the exchanges were initiated.

The right of the up-State Public Service Commission to allow a temporary increase in telephone rates pending the final determination of the rate case now before it was upheld to-day by Justice Lehman in Part IV. Special Term of the Supreme Court when he denied the application of the City of New York for a permanent injunction to restrain the New York Telephone Company from enforcing an increase of 28 per cent. in rates.

The contention urged upon the court by Assistant Corporation Counsel Forgie for the city, was that the up-State Public Service Commission was without the power to grant the increase during the progress of a rate case.

Justice Lehman, in his decision, said: "I need not even now decide that the Commission has the power to grant such an increase without a final hearing. I merely decide that the Commission has the power to consent to a raise in rates without determining what rates are reasonable when it appears that conditions prevailing when the Commission made its original rate order have since changed."

With reference to the city's contention that the commission acted unreasonably and arbitrarily in granting the temporary raise in rates, Justice Lehman said:

"I am not holding that the commission may act so, for persons entrusted with the execution of important powers can act unreasonably and arbitrarily and in contravention of their clear duty, but public officers are always presumed to act reasonably in the performance of their duty, and when they fail to do so they can be removed."

Injunction Is Denied and Power of Up-State Commission Upheld.

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"AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW" by Nancibelle Hale.

START IT TO-DAY ON PAGE 16